

MOTION BY SUPERVISORS MOLINA AND ANTONOVICH

June 22, 2009

CODE ENFORCEMENT

In 2005, in order to address numerous complaints about building and zoning code violations in the unincorporated areas of the County, the Board of Supervisors funded the District Attorney's Code Enforcement Program with a \$1,408,000 allocation of Proposition 62 Utility User Tax Funds. The Code Enforcement Program is a collaborative effort between the District Attorney's Office and the County Departments of Regional Planning, Public Health, Public Works, Animal Care and Control and the Sheriff's Department, in which DA Investigators and Deputy District Attorneys provide law enforcement and prosecution services to ensure compliance with zoning, building, property rehabilitation, and other similar codes. The program was expanded in FY 2006-07 with General Funds through a Board motion by Supervisor Don Knabe to meet the increased demands for services.

The total cost of the District Attorney's Code Enforcement Program is \$2,932,000. In order to meet its FY 2009-10 NCC curtailment target, the District

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Molina _____

Ridley-Thomas _____

Yaroslavsky _____

Antonovich _____

Knabe _____

Attorney's Office was forced to curtail the program by \$1,524,000 down to the Prop. 62-funded level of \$1,408,000. This represents a 52% reduction and will necessitate a restructuring of the program involving a reduction in assigned investigative staff and elimination of dedicated prosecutors. Allocation of either additional one-time Prop. 62 funds or maintaining the previous investment of general funds will preserve the current staffing levels and enable the District Attorney's Office to continue to assist in improving neighborhoods and the quality of life for County residents.

WE, THEREFORE, MOVE that the CEO report back during the Supplemental Budget phase with funding options to maintain the code enforcement activities in the unincorporated area for a three-year period.

LO/ld